ATLAS COMICS
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TALES of EVIL
FEATURING
THE BOG BEAST
GASP! I WARNED BRUNO NOT TO TAUNT THE BEAST! I WARNED HIM!
NOW THE MONSTER IS FREE!--AND EVEN BULLETS CAN'T STOP HIM! NOTHING CAN!

HE HAD TRAVELED FAR FROM WITHIN THE DARK AND MYSTERIOUS REGIONS OF THIS PLANET'S DEPTHS; UNTIL FINALLY EMERGING IN THE CENTER OF THE BLACK, BUBBLING LA BREA TAR PITS...

THE BOG BEAST

HIS MISSION: TO EXPLORE AND STUDY THE SURFACE WORLD ABOVE!

BUT THE BOG MAN'S STUDY WOULD BE ARDUOUS AND UNENDING... FOR THE HUMAN ANIMAL IS A COMPLEX THING... A CREATURE LONG KNOWN TO BE POSSESSED BY BOTH SAINT... AND DEVIL...

TWO SURFACE DWELLERS--

CRACK!

THEY ALSO SEEK SHELTER FROM THE BURSTING SOUNDS AND DRIVING WATERS THAT FALL FROM ABOVE!

LIVING BEINGS, TOTALLY DIFFERENT IN BOTH MIND AND BODY, ABOUT TO ENTER INTO A TALE OF VIOLENCE, GREED, HATE AND COMPASSION... A TALE WE CALL

"THE FIFTY DOLLAR BODY!"

JOHN ALBANO, WRITER | JACK SPARLING, ARTIST | ALAN KUPPERBERG, LETTERER | LARRY LIEBER, EDITOR

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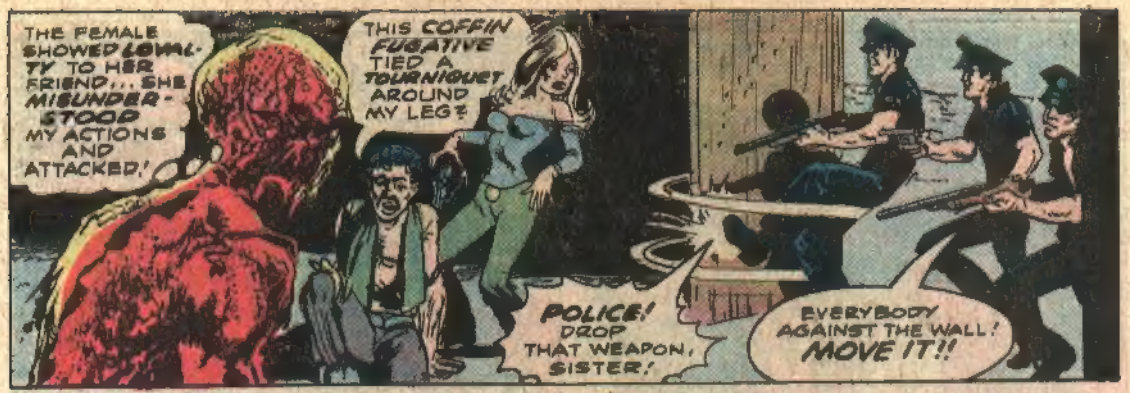
MAN, THIS LEG OF MINE IS KILLING ME! I NEVER KNEW A BULLET WOUND COULD BE SO PAINFUL!
STINKIN' FASCIST PIGS! IF THEY'RE NOT RIPPING OFF THE POOR, THEY'RE TRYING TO WASTE THEM!
WHAT THIS DUDE NEEDS IS SOME REST!
ALL THAT RUNNING-- I'M SPENT! I GOTTA REST! ...REST...
HEY, DON'T FALL ASLEEP RALPHIE! IT TAKES DYNAMITE TO WAKE YOU!
NUTS! HE'S ASLEEP ALREADY.
IF THE HEAT MAKES THE SCENE NOW, WE'RE IN REAL TROU--
CREEK!
WHA--?
AIIEE! IT'S S-SOME KIND OF A...A... MONSTER!!
S-STAY AWAY F-FROM ME!!
IT'S ATTACKING RALPHIE!
I MUST STOP IT! KILL IT!
BLAM! BLAM! BLAM! BLAM!
HEY, WHAT'S GOING--
HOLY MOTHER!!
NO! IT'S NOT POSSIBLE!
THREE BULLETS STRAIGHT THROUGH ITS HEAD AND--
--NOTHING HAPPENED!

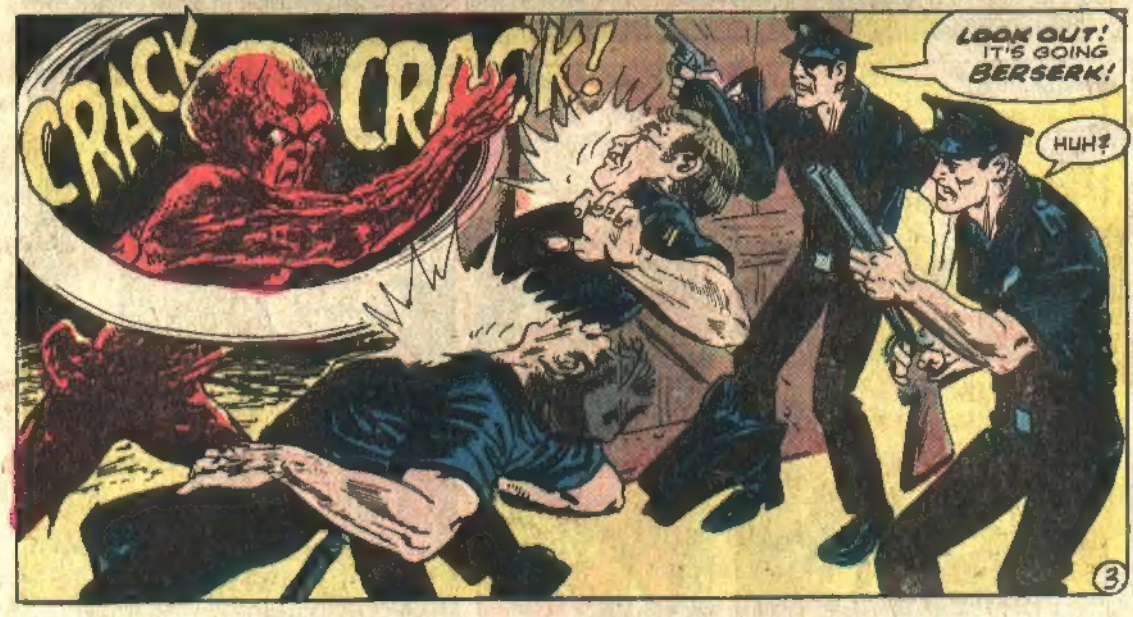

THE FEMALE SHOWED LOYALTY TO HER FRIEND... SHE MISUNDERSTOOD MY ACTIONS AND ATTACKED!
THIS COFFIN FUGITIVE TIED A TOURNIQUET AROUND MY LEG?
POLICE! DROP THAT WEAPON, SISTER!
EVERYBODY AGAINST THE WALL! MOVE IT!!

IT'S THEM ALL RIGHT, SERGEANT! THE TWO RADICALS WHO BOMBED THE BANK!
BUT WHO'S--
WHAT IN GOD'S NAME IS IT?
GOOD LORD!

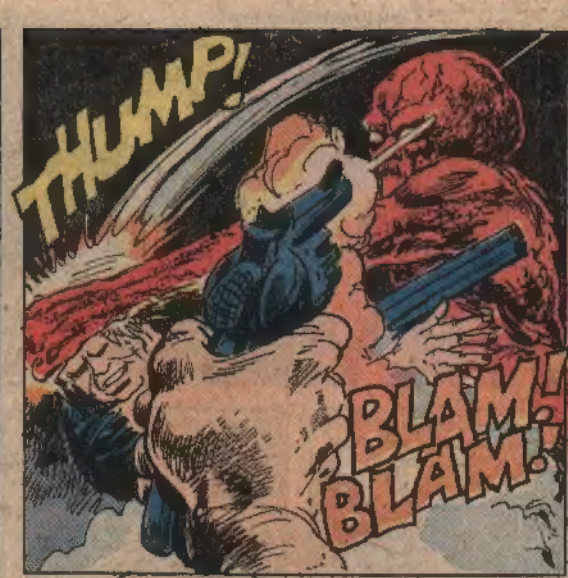
IS-IS HE HUMAN?
I CAN'T TELL!
HE MUST'VE GOT HIS FLESH BURNED OFF IN A FIRE!
WHOEVER-- WHATEVER YOU ARE, GET AGAINST THE--

AANNGG!

YOU GET BEHIND HIM! I'LL TRY TO TAKE HIM FROM THE FRONT.
YEAH, BUT BE CAREFUL! HE'S A LOT STRONGER THAN HE LOOKS!


CRACK
CRACK!
LOOK OUT! IT'S GOING BERSERK!
HUH?

HOLY COW!! I CAN'T PUT HIM DOWN!
BLAM! BLAM! BLAM!

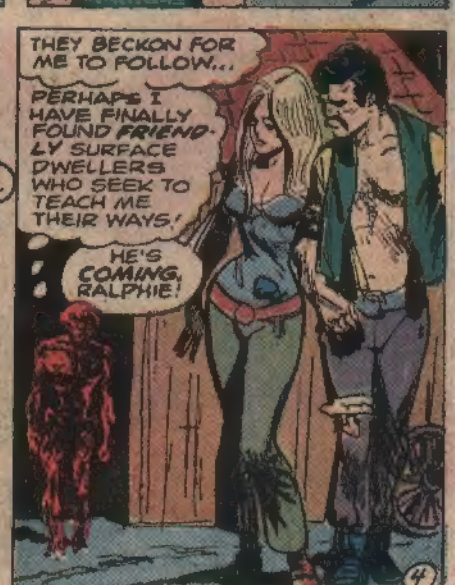

THUMP!
BLAM! BLAM!

THUD!

I DON'T BELIEVE IT! NO WAY! I MEAN, WHAT I'VE BEEN SEEIN' ONLY HAPPENS ON T.V.!
THE THING IS A FORCE THAT NOTHING CAN STOP, RALPHIE! AND HE'S ONE OF US! HE'S ON THE SIDE OF THE PEOPLES' REVOLUTION!

MAYBE... BUT IT COULD BE HE'S JUST CON-FUSED...
HE ONLY WENT THE VIOLENT ROUTE WHEN THE HEAT BEGAN PAWING HIM!
LET'S TRY TO GET HIM TO GO WITH US ANYWAY-- BEFORE THE FUZZ COMES TO AGAIN!

C'MON, MUSCLE BABY...
C'MON...
?


THEY BECKON FOR ME TO FOLLOW...
PERHAPS I HAVE FINALLY FOUND FRIEND-LY SURFACE DWELLERS WHO SEEK TO TEACH ME THEIR WAYS!
HE'S COMING, RALPHIE!

SOME TIME LATER, IN A DENSELY WOODED AREA A LONG DISTANCE AWAY, THE RADICALS AND THE BOG BEAST MAKE CAMP...
I'VE MADE THREE BEDS OF LEAVES, BROTHER. DIG?
THE MALE TRIES CONSTANTLY TO COMMUNICATE...
PERHAPS IN TIME I SHALL UNDERSTAND HIS SOUNDS...!
I'M GOING TO GATHER SOME FIREWOOD!

THAT'S YOUR SACK FOR THE NIGHT! BETTER GET SOME REST WHILE YOU CAN!
HIS GESTURES HAVE MEANING BUT I CANNOT COMPREHEND...
WAIT! HE HAS PREPARED THREE PLACES! HE MEANS FOR ME TO REST AS HE DOES!

MEANWHILE, A SHORT DISTANCE AWAY...
WHAT WAS THAT?
VOICES!
NEARBY...
I'D BETTER CHECK IT OUT! IT MIGHT BE MORE FUZZ!

THOSE PARKED TRUCKS --
IT'S A TRAVELING CARNIVAL!
WELL, THEY'RE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT...
HEY... I JUST GOT A BRIGHT IDEA!

SHORTLY AFTER... INSIDE THE CARNIVAL OWNER'S VAN....
A DEAF AND DUMB MONSTER!
LIKE NO FREAK THAT YOU'VE EVER SEEN BEFORE! HE'D BE A SENSATION IN YOUR SIDE-SHOW!

IS HE UGLY AND MEAN ENOUGH LOOKING TO REALLY FRIGHTEN THE PUBLIC?
HE'LL SCARE 'EM OUT OF THEIR WITS!
JUST LAY FIFTY GREEN ONES ON ME AND HE'S YOURS!

OKAY, LITTLE GIRL, YOU'VE SOLD ME!

SINCE WHEN HAS YOUR KIND WORRIED ABOUT THAT?

OF COURSE, THIS DEAL ISN'T WHAT YOU'D CALL --LEGAL!

JUST MAKE SURE YOU BRING AT LEAST SIX STRONG MEN, A NET AND SOME HEAVY CHAINS!

AND LESS THAN AN HOUR LATER... AFTER SURPRISING THE BOG BEAST WHILE HE LAY SLEEPING...

AANNG!

HE'S BREAKING THROUGH THE NET! GET THE CHAINS!

FIGHTING SAVAGELY, THE UNDERGROUND DWELLER CAUSES HAVOC BEFORE HE IS FINALLY SUBDUED...

WHEW! WE GOT HIM!

BUT NOT BEFORE HE TORE OUR NET TO SHREDS AND RIPPED OPEN THREE OF OUR GUYS!

START DRAGGING HIM TOWARD THE TRUCKS! HURRY!

MAN! THAT WAS THE THIRD WORLD WAR!

AND DIG OLD VIP OVER THERE! HE SLEPT THROUGH IT ALL!

THEN, AFTER TEN MINUTES OF STRENUOUS TUGGING...

YAWN! MORNING ALREADY, JUDY?

NO, DUMMY...

HEY! MY LEG FEELS OKAY! I GOTTA TELL THAT BROTHER HE'S GOT THE MAGIC TOU--

FORGET IT! HE'S GONE!

GONE?

HE'S IN A CAGE AT THE CARNIVAL!

I SOLD HIM, DIG?

SOLDIERS IN THE PEOPLES' ARMY HAVE TO EAT, Y'KNOW!

JUDY, YOU SMELL! DO YOU KNOW THAT? YOU SMELL!
HUH? WHAT'RE YOU GETTING UPTIGHT FOR? HE WASN'T HUMAN!

WE'RE GOING TO GET HIM BACK, JUDY! EVEN IF HE WASN'T THE EQUAL OF US GREAT HOMO SAPIENS!
HEY, I'M THE LEADER, REMEMBER? WE'VE GOT MORE IMPORTANT THINGS TO DO!
YOU WANT THE FREAK BACK, GO GET HIM YOURSELF, THAT WAY!

RIGHT ON, BABY!
I'M GOING!
AND I'M NOT COMING BACK!
I GUESS YOU FORGOT THE RULES -- FORGOT THAT THE PRICE FOR RUNNING OUT ON THIS OUTFIT...

...IS DEATH!
BLAM! BLAM!
ARRGG!

Y-YOU SHOT ME... IN THE BACK...
YOU TALK TOO MUCH, BABY!
YOU W-WHO CALL THE ESTABLISHMENT ALL MURDERERS...
SO LONG! IT'S BEEN SWELL!
WHA-? I'M OUT OF A-AMMUNITION!
CLICK CLICK

SICK CHICK... D-DON'T HAVE TIME TO GO AFTER HER AND KNOCK S-SOME SENSE INTO HER DUMB HEAD...

GETTIN' WEAK...

GOTTA GET THAT BROTHER O-OUT...

EVERYBODY'S GOTTA HAVE FREEDOM...

SHORTLY AFTER... HAVING LOCATED THE CARNIVAL AND THE CAGE THE BOG BEAST IS IMPRISONED IN...

C'MON, PAL! I PICKED T-THE LOCK... YOU'RE A F-FREE BIRD AGAIN!

?

NO... D-DON'T WAIT... F-FOR ME, Y-YOU DUMMY... GET OUT OF HERE B-BEFORE THEY... BEFORE... TH-THEY...

HE IS WITHOUT LIFE!

... AND THAT CAUSES ME GREAT SORROW...

AND ANGER...

FOR I SUSPECT THE FEMALE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR MY INCARCERATION...

SHE COULD THEN BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE NOBLE ONE'S FATAL WOUND...!

BUT A SHORT TIME LATER, AND LESS THAN A MILE FROM THE CAMP SITE...

SHE TOO IS WITHOUT LIFE...

IT IS EVIDENT HER HEAD STRUCK THIS ROCK AS SHE FELL...

A STRANGE ACCIDENT!

THE SAME UNKNOWN FORCES OF FATE ARE AT WORK HERE AS WELL AS WHERE MY PEOPLE DWELL...

MY KNOWLEDGE INCREASES WITH EACH EXPERIENCE ABOVE THE EARTH...

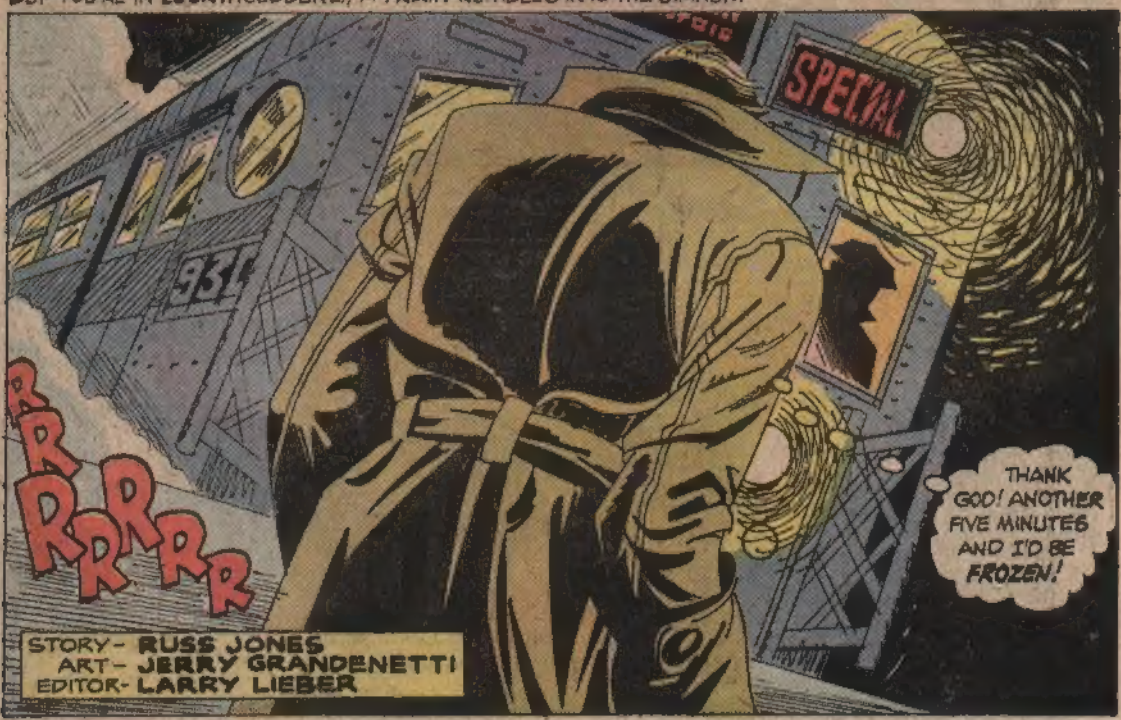
I WONDER WHAT NEXT LIES AHEAD FOR ME?

END

YOU'RE IN *NEW ENGLAND*...IT'S *ONE A.M.*...THE WEATHER IS ROTTEN. YOU MAKE YOUR WAY TO THE NEAREST SUBWAY *KIOSK*, THE *SNOW* SWIRLS AROUND YOU, THE COLD WINTER WIND BEATS AGAINST YOUR CLOTHES. YOU HOPE YOU HAVEN'T MISSED...

THE LAST TRAIN

BUT YOU'RE IN *LUCK*...SUDDENLY, A *TRAIN* RUMBLES INTO THE STATION.



STORY- RUSS JONES
ART- JERRY GRANDENETTI
EDITOR- LARRY LIEBER

YOU GET ON AND TAKE A SEAT. YOU NOTICE THAT THE PERSON SITTING OPPOSITE YOU HAS A *WHITE DEATH-LIKE APPEARANCE!* TO YOUR ASTONISHMENT THE OTHER HALF-DOZEN PASSENGERS *ALSO* LOOK LIKE THIS...

RRR RRR RRR

YOU GAZE ABOUT YOU...EVERYONE IS SITTING *RIGID*, LOOKING *STRAIGHT AHEAD*. YOU CLEAR YOUR THROAT AND TURN TO THE MAN AT YOUR SIDE --

COLD NIGHT, EH?

BUT THERE IS *NO RESPONSE*. NO SIGN THAT THIS CORPSE-LIKE BEING HAS EVEN *HEARD* WHAT YOU HAVE SAID. *FEAR* SUDDENLY GRIPS YOUR *HEART*.

YOU GET UP AND MOVE TO A SEAT *AWAY* FROM EVERYONE ELSE. THEN YOU REALIZE...

HEY! THIS TRAIN JUST WENT *PAST* THE *ARLINGTON STOP!*

I'LL HAVE TO GET OFF AT COPLEY AND *WALK* THE REST OF THE WAY!

SPECIAL

BUT THE TRAIN PASSES THE NEXT STOP *ALSO* WITHOUT EVEN *SLOWING DOWN! FRIGHTENED* AND *ANGRY*, YOU RUSH FORWARD TO SPEAK TO THE *CONDUCTOR*...

HEY, WHAT'S GOIN' *ON?* YOU JUST WENT PAST MY...

THE CONDUCTOR *TURNS* TO YOU...HE HAS THE LOOK OF *DEATH!*

NO STOPS!

WHA--WHAT DO YOU *MEAN*...NO STOPS? I WANT TO *GET OFF!*

IN BLIND PANIC, YOU RUN WILDLY THROUGH THE TRAIN...UNTIL YOU REACH THE REAR CAR....

MY GOD! THE PASSENGERS--THEY ALL LOOK THE SAME...LIKE THEY'RE DEAD!

I MUST GET OFF THIS TRAIN! WHEN WE REACH THE NEXT STATION I'LL PULL THE EMERGENCY CORD! THAT'LL STOP THE TRAIN!

THE TRAIN MOVES INTO THE STATION. YOU GRAB THE CORD, WITH A SHAKY, SWEATY HAND! TO YOUR HORROR YOU SEE THE PASSENGERS RISE FROM THEIR SEATS AND START TO SHAMBLE TOWARD YOU....

SKREEEEE

BUT THEY'RE TOO SLOW--TOO LATE! YOU RUN THROUGH THE DOORS!

SLAM

930

YOU RUN WILDLY, TAKING THREE STEPS AT A TIME TO THE ICE-COVERED STREET ABOVE! YOU HEAR THE TRAIN PULL OUT OF THE STATION!

YOU RUN, RUN UNTIL YOU THINK THAT YOUR HEART WILL EXPLODE! YOU DON'T SEE THE TRUCK...A SPEEDING MONSTER OF METAL THAT CANNOT STOP IN TIME!

YOU ARE BACK ON THE "LAST TRAIN"--ONLY NOW YOU UTTER NO COMMENT--NOW YOU VOICE NO COMPLAINT...NOW YOU JUST SIT SILENTLY--AND RIDE--AND RIDE--

RRR RRR R R R R R R

--AND RIDE--FOR ALL ETERNITY!

SIGNAL

the END.

REQUIEM FOR A WEREWOLF!

HUNDREDS OF EYES DEVOURED THE CELLULOID BLOOD-FEAST FLICKERING ON THE SCREEN BEFORE THEM. A MASS OF HUMANITY BROUGHT TOGETHER BY A CINEMATIC NIGHTMARE.

SCRIPT by • MARVIN CHANNING
ART by • TOM SUTTON
EDITED by • LARRY LIEBER

WHEN THE LAST DROP OF MAKE-BELIEVE BLOOD HAD BEEN SPILLED, THE AUDIENCE RETURNED TO THE MUNDANE REALITY OF THEIR LIVES. SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF THE TECHNICOLOR SPECTACLE FADED FROM THEIR MINDS. BUT ONE MAN, CARLOS MARTINEZ, CONTINUED TO SAVOR HIS EXCURSION INTO THE WORLD OF THE BIZARRE.

MAN, THAT WAS GREAT... GREAT! I'D GIVE ANYTHING TO TURN INTO A WEREWOLF. THEN I'D SHOW THEM ALL. LEONORA... MY BOSS... EVERYBODY! I'D KILL... KILL THEM ALL!

SICK? YES, CARLOS WAS SICK. SICK WITH HATRED FOR A WORLD THAT HAD TAKEN EVERYTHING FROM HIM. PRIDE, AMBITION, EVEN HIS BELOVED! BUT ONCE THERE WAS A DIFFERENT CARLOS. A TENDER LOVING BOY WHO LONGED FOR A BETTER LIFE. A LIFE HE WOULD SHARE WITH HIS DARLING LEONORA.

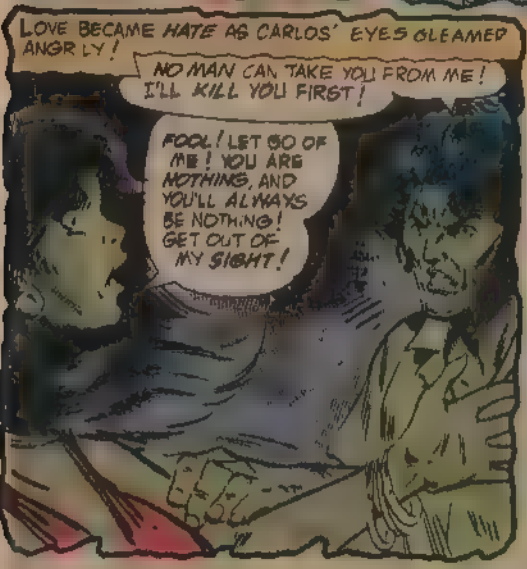
WHEN THE CHILDREN ARE GROWN, MY DAUGHTER LEONORA WILL WED YOUR SON CARLOS. THEN OUR FAMILIES WILL BE AS ONE!

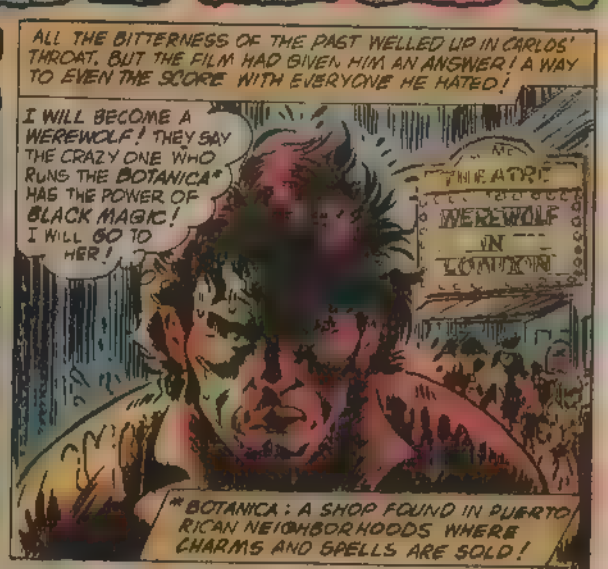
RICO WE ARE POOR AND HAVE NO FUTURE. IN AMERICA, OUR CHILDREN WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO MAKE SOMETHING OF THEIR LIVES!

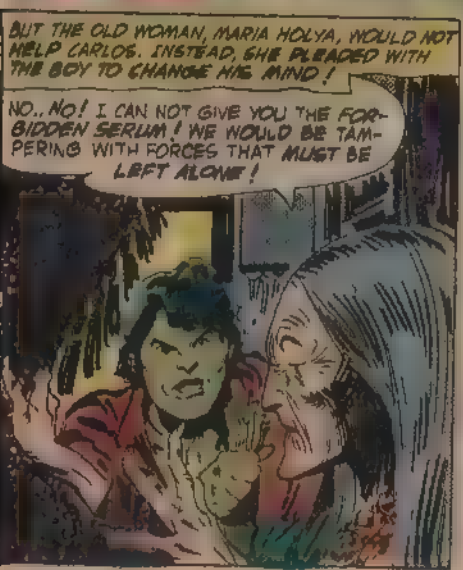
BUT THE DREAM OF PROSPERITY, SO CAREFULLY NURTURED IN PUERTO RICO, TURNED TO ASHES, AS CARLOS GREW TO MANHOOD IN AMERICA.
YOU PEOPLE--YOU'RE ALL DUMB AND LAZY! AND YOU, MARTINEZ--YOU'RE THE DUMBEST OF THEM ALL!

AND FATE HAD ONE MORE BITTER JOKE TO PLAY UPON CARLOS. LEONARA, HIS LOVE--HIS ONE REASON FOR LIVING--DESERTED HIM FOR RICHES AND COMFORT.
NO, CARLOS! IT'S OVER! JIM KENT HAS PROPOSED! I'M MARRYING HIM NEXT WEEK! HE'S RICH... I'LL HAVE EVERYTHING I'VE ALWAYS WANTED!

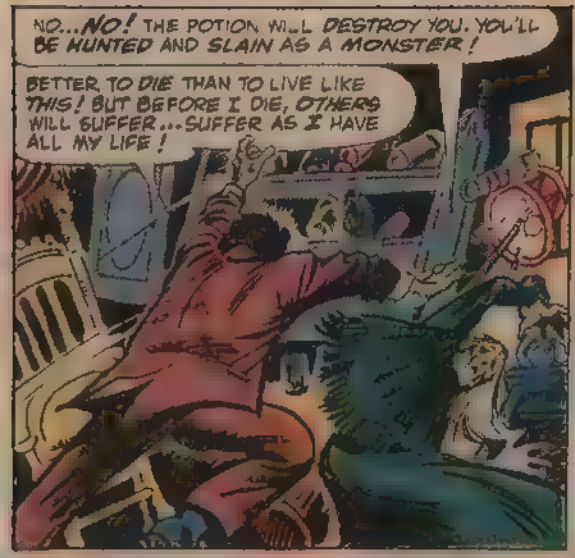
CRUSHED BY THE DISINTEGRATION OF HIS DREAMS, CARLOS DID WHAT MANY OF US WOULD HAVE DONE... HE BEGGED!
PLEASE... DON'T LEAVE ME... I LOVE YOU MORE THAN MY OWN LIFE! GIVE ME ANOTHER CHANCE... I'LL MAKE GOOD! I SWEAR IT!

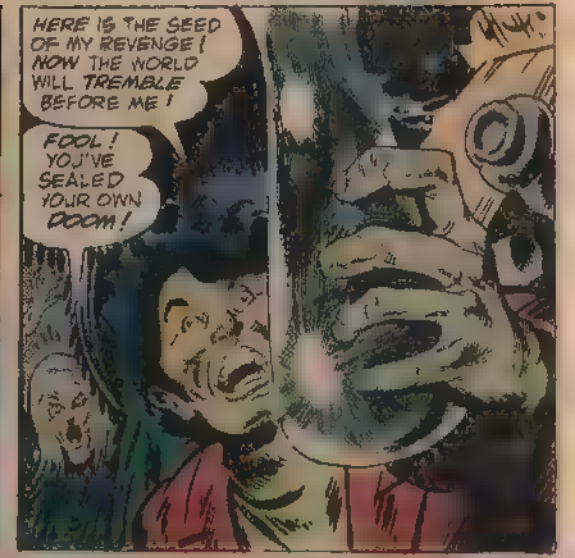

LOVE BECAME HATE AS CARLOS' EYES GLEAMED ANGRILY!
NO MAN CAN TAKE YOU FROM ME! I'LL KILL YOU FIRST!
FOOL! LET GO OF ME! YOU ARE NOTHING, AND YOU'LL ALWAYS BE NOTHING! GET OUT OF MY SIGHT!


ALL THE BITTERNESS OF THE PAST WELLED UP IN CARLOS' THROAT. BUT THE FILM HAD GIVEN HIM AN ANSWER! A WAY TO EVEN THE SCORE WITH EVERYONE HE HATED!
I WILL BECOME A WEREWOLF! THEY SAY THE CRAZY ONE WHO RUNS THE BOTANICA* HAS THE POWER OF BLACK MAGIC! I WILL GO TO HER!
THEATRE
WEREWOLF IN LONDON
*BOTANICA: A SHOP FOUND IN PUERTO RICAN NEIGHBORHOODS WHERE CHARMS AND SPELLS ARE SOLD!

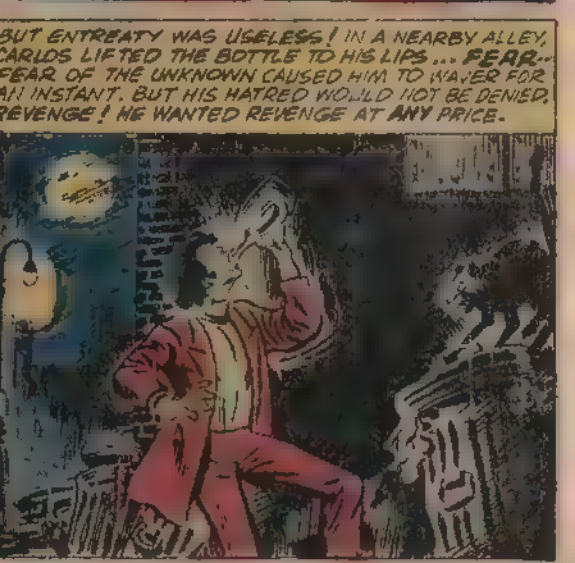

BUT THE OLD WOMAN, MARIA HOLYA, WOULD NOT HELP CARLOS. INSTEAD, SHE PLEADED WITH THE BOY TO CHANGE HIS MIND!
NO.. NO! I CAN NOT GIVE YOU THE FORBIDDEN SERUM! WE WOULD BE TAMPERING WITH FORCES THAT MUST BE LEFT ALONE!

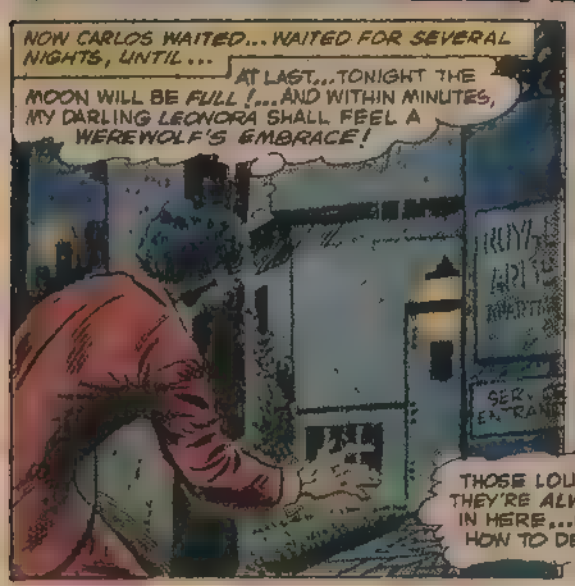
GET OUT OF MY WAY, WITCH! I WI... I MUST HAVE THAT SERUM!

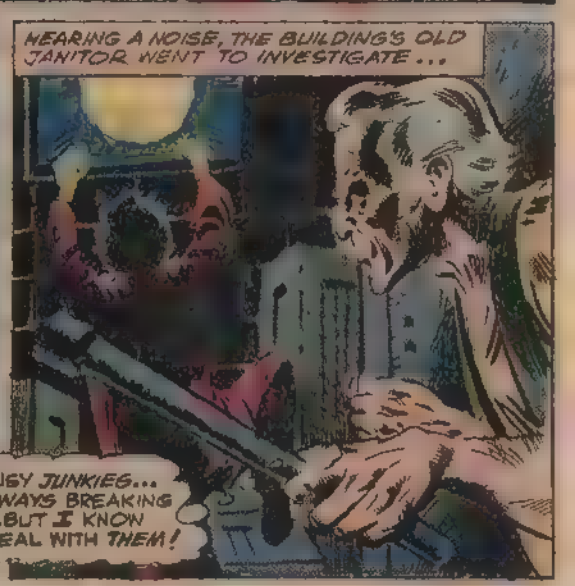

NO...NO! THE POTION WILL DESTROY YOU. YOU'LL BE HUNTED AND SLAIN AS A MONSTER!
BETTER TO DIE THAN TO LIVE LIKE THIS! BUT BEFORE I DIE, OTHERS WILL SUFFER...SUFFER AS I HAVE ALL MY LIFE!

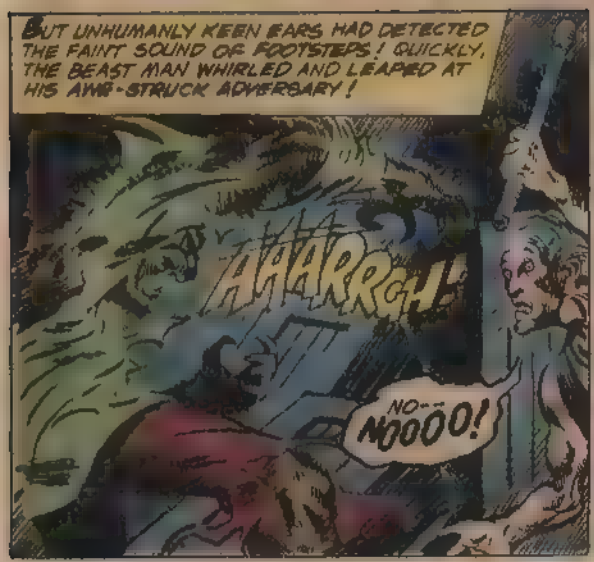

HERE IS THE SEED OF MY REVENGE! NOW THE WORLD WILL TREMBLE BEFORE ME!
FOOL! YOU'VE SEALED YOUR OWN DOOM!

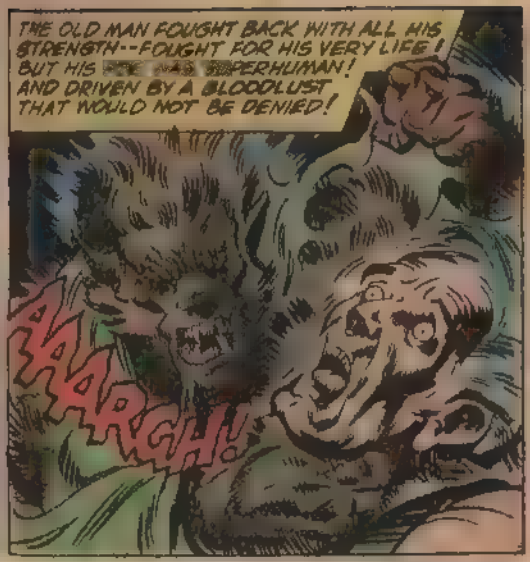
WITH HIS HEART POUNDING IN ANTICIPATION, CARLOS FLED FROM THE SHOP...
STOP! YOU ARE DEFYING GOD HIMSELF. WE WILL BOTH BE PUNISHED FOR THE DEFILEMENT OF HIS LAW!


BUT ENTREATY WAS USELESS! IN A NEARBY ALLEY, CARLOS LIFTED THE BOTTLE TO HIS LIPS... FEAR... FEAR OF THE UNKNOWN CAUSED HIM TO WAVER FOR AN INSTANT. BUT HIS HATRED WOULD NOT BE DENIED. REVENGE! HE WANTED REVENGE AT ANY PRICE.

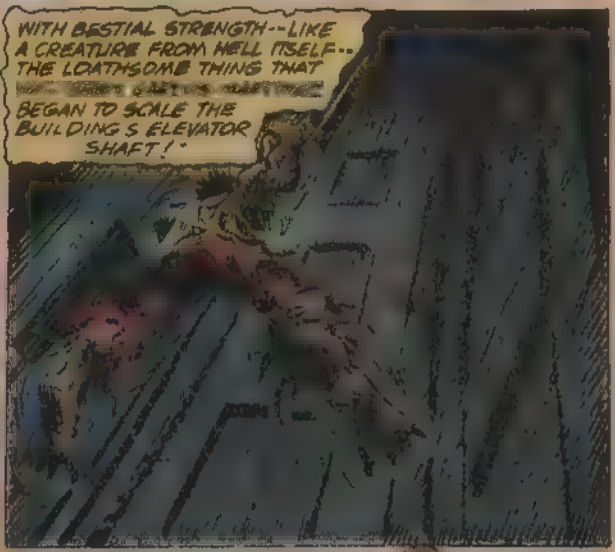

NOW CARLOS WAITED... WAITED FOR SEVERAL NIGHTS, UNTIL...
AT LAST...TONIGHT THE MOON WILL BE FULL!...AND WITHIN MINUTES, MY DARLING LEONORA SHALL FEEL A WEREWOLF'S EMBRACE!


HEARING A NOISE, THE BUILDING'S OLD JANITOR WENT TO INVESTIGATE...
THOSE LOUSY JUNKIES... THEY'RE ALWAYS BREAKING IN HERE...BUT I KNOW HOW TO DEAL WITH THEM!


BUT UNHUMANLY KEEN EARS HAD DETECTED THE FAINT SOUND OF FOOTSTEPS! QUICKLY, THE BEAST MAN WHIRLED AND LEAPED AT HIS AWE-STRUCK ADVERSARY!
AAAARRGH!
NO--NOOOO!


THE OLD MAN FOUGHT BACK WITH ALL HIS STRENGTH--FOUGHT FOR HIS VERY LIFE! BUT HIS [illegible] WAS SUPERHUMAN! AND DRIVEN BY A BLOODLUST THAT WOULD NOT BE DENIED!
AAARGH!

WITHOUT REMORSE--WITH NO TRACE OF GUILT--THE WEREWOLF RETURNED TO HIS HIDEOUS PLAN!


WITH BESTIAL STRENGTH--LIKE A CREATURE FROM HELL ITSELF--THE LOATHSOME THING THAT [illegible] BEGAN TO SCALE THE BUILDING'S ELEVATOR SHAFT!

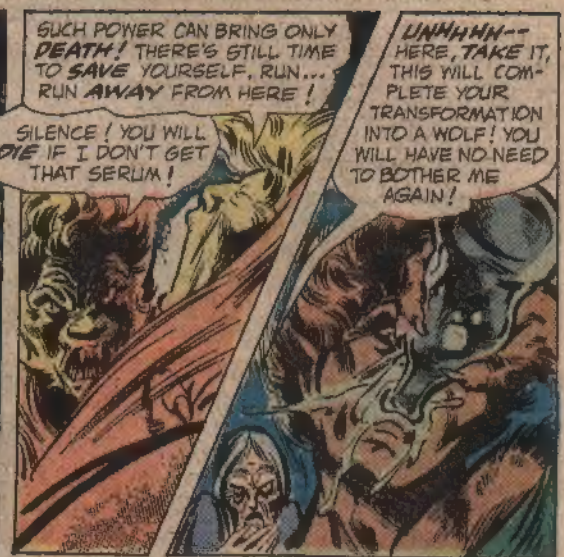
MOMENTS LATER, HIS NOSTRILS PULSATING WITH HATRED, THE CREATURE OPENED THE DOOR TO LEONORA'S APARTMENT!
GRRRR

JIM DARLING, I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE HOME. YOU WEREN'T SUPPOSED TO GET BACK FROM YOUR TRIP UNTIL TOMORROW... I'LL BE OUT IN A MINUTE!
AS THE UNBEARABLE MEMORY OF REJECTION AGAIN FLOODED HIS THOUGHTS, THE WEREWOLF SEIZED A LIPSTICK LYING ON THE DRESSER...
"DARLING!" ONCE SHE USED TO CALL ME THAT!
REVENGE
WHEN LEONORA WALKED INTO THE ROOM, A SLIGHT RUSTLE OF DRAPERY CAUGHT HER EYE...
SOMEBODY'S THERE-- HIDING!!
WHO... WHO ARE YOU?
BUT THE MIRROR REVEALED THE IDENTITY OF THE HIDDEN INTRUDER!
CARLOS... I KNOW IT'S YOU! HOW DARE YOU BREAK INTO MY APARTMENT. I'LL GIVE YOU FIVE SECONDS TO LEAVE BEFORE I CALL THE POLICE!
REVENGE
ANGRILY, LEONORA OPENED THE DRAPE, REVEALING A SIGHT THAT FROZE THE BLOOD IN HER VEINS!
SANTA MARIA... NO... NO... HELP!
GRRRR

STARK TERROR CLUTCHED AT LEONORA'S HEART! FRANTICALLY, SHE TRIED TO FLEE FROM THE ONCOMING MONSTER!
NO... NO... PLEASE!
GGGRRR
SHRIEKING HER LIFE AWAY, LEONORA STRUGGLED IN VAIN AGAINST THE STEEL GRIP OF CLAW AND FANG!
GGRRR
CRIPES, WHAT IS THAT? A MAN OR AN ANIMAL?
WHO CARES? SHOOT... SHOOT BEFORE HE GETS US!
FOR AN INSTANT, THE PRIMITIVE INSTINCT OF THE WOLF COMPLETELY POSSESSED CARLOS AS HE HOWLED IN TRIUMPH!
WHAT'S GOIN' ON IN THERE?
OPEN THIS DOOR... IT'S THE POLICE!
IT CAN'T BE-- HE'S STILL ALIVE!
I PUT A 38 SLUG IN HIS HEART!
POW! POW! POW! POW!
IN A FRENZY, THE WEREWOLF'S EYES DARTED FROM PLACE TO PLACE SEEKING ESCAPE! SUDDENLY, THE SAFEST PATH TO FREEDOM BECAME CLEAR!
CRASH!
HOLY COW!

FROM UP ABOVE, THE POLICE STARED WIDE-EYED, THEIR JAWS HANGING IN AMAZEMENT.
TELL ME, JOE.. TELL ME I'M SEEING THINGS!
IF YOU AIN'T, WE'RE BOTH IN THE SAME NIGHTMARE!
FOR THE MOMENT, CARLOS MARTINEZ WAS FREE... FREE OF HIS PURSUERS! NOW HE NEEDED SANCTUARY!
HE DASHED INTO THE PARK ACROSS THE STREET... INTO THE MAZE OF TREES AND SHRUBBERY THAT COVERED THE FEARSOME CREATURE FROM VIEW!
I SAW HIM RUN IN HERE! KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED!
BE CAREFUL! HE COULD BE HIDING ANY-PLACE!
IT'S TOO DARK! WE'LL NEVER FIND HIM!
THE WEREWOLF REMAINED IN THE PARK UNTIL DAY-LIGHT. AS THE SUN SLOWLY ROSE IN THE EASTERN SKY, CARLOS RETURNED TO HUMAN FORM! AND A HUMAN CARLOS WAS FEARED BY NO MAN... LEAST OF ALL HIS BOSS AT WORK!
YOU LAZY BUM! I OUGHTA FIRE YOU! YOU'VE BEEN GOOFIN' OFF ALL MORNING!
JUST YOU WAIT, MAN! WAIT TILL THE MOON BECOMES FULL AGAIN!
CARLOS BORE THE INSULTS AND ABUSE, BIDING HIS TIME, WAITING... WAITING FOR THE NEXT FULL MOON! THEN, AT LAST, THE GHOSTLY SILVER BALL ROSE IN THE HEAVENS!
TONIGHT I WILL STRIKE AGAIN! WITH FANG AND CLAW! I'LL TAKE REVENGE AGAINST MY BOSS! NEVER MORE WILL HE TAUNT ME--WILL HE INSULT ME!
AS THE TRANSFORMATION BEGAN, CARLOS' HEART BEAT WITH SAVAGE JOY! BUT THEN...
IT STOPPED... I'VE STOPPED CHANGING!
THAT OLD WITCH AT THE BOTANICA. SHE KNEW THE SPELL WOULDN'T LAST! BUT SHE'LL BRING IT BACK... SHE'LL MAKE IT WORK AGAIN--OR I'LL KILL HER!

LOOK...LOOK OLD HAG AT WHAT YOU'VE DONE! I WANT MORE SERUM NOW!
NO! YOU HAVE KILLED ENOUGH! THE NEWSPAPERS ARE FULL OF YOUR TERRIBLE DEEDS!
STOP PREACHING! THE SERUM MEANS POWER! I MUST HAVE IT!


SUCH POWER CAN BRING ONLY DEATH! THERE'S STILL TIME TO SAVE YOURSELF. RUN... RUN AWAY FROM HERE!
SILENCE! YOU WILL DIE IF I DON'T GET THAT SERUM!
UNHHHH-- HERE, TAKE IT, THIS WILL COMPLETE YOUR TRANSFORMATION INTO A WOLF! YOU WILL HAVE NO NEED TO BOTHER ME AGAIN!

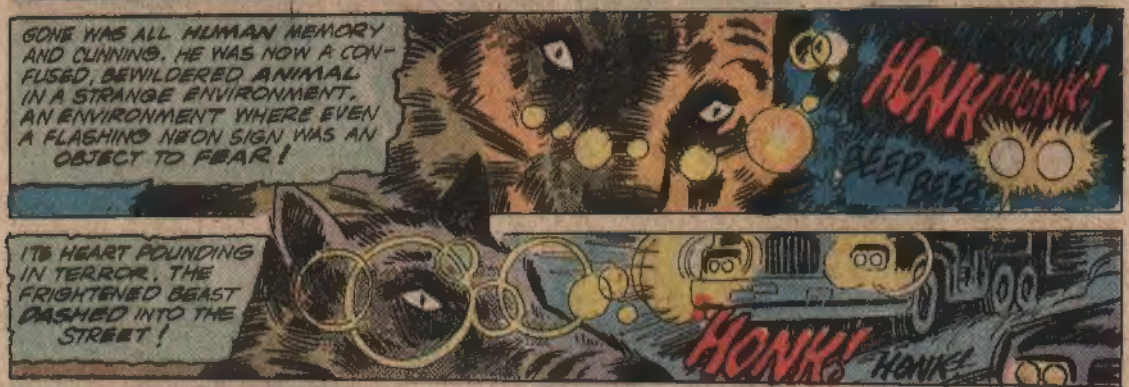
THE SUPERNATURAL TRANSFORMATION BEGAN IMMEDIATELY! THE WEREWOLF'S BLOOD-RED EYES NARROWED AS HE LOOKED AT THE OLD WOMAN! BACK IN FULL FORCE WAS HIS EXHILARATING LUST FOR BLOOD!
NO, EVIL ONE... NO! E!!!!!!!
GGRRARR

GO...GO TO YOUR DOOM! YOU HAVE KILLED ME... BUT I HAVE ALSO KILLED YOU! WE HAVE BOTH DEFIED GOD AND DESERVE OUR FATE...WE... UGHHH--

YES, MARIA HAD FOUND A WAY TO STOP THE EVIL CREATURE. CARLOS' TRANSFORMATION CONTINUED AS HE BECAME MORE THAN A WEREWOLF! MUCH, MUCH MORE!
I...I FEEL STRANGE! GRRRR...WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME?!!

COLD FEAR CLUTCHED AT CARLOS. BUT THERE WAS NOTHING HE COULD DO! THERE WAS NO TURNING BACK!!
NO... NO! I... I...
GRRRFF

THE WEREWOLF WAS GONE! IN HIS PLACE STOOD A FOUR-LEGGED CREATURE OF THE FOREST! THE HUNTER HAD BECOME THE HUNTED! THE TERRORIST HAD BECOME THE TERRORIZED!
WHINE... WHINE!

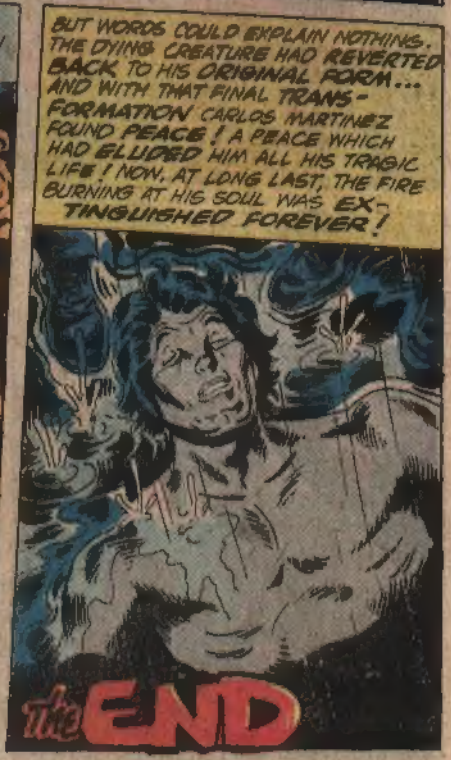

GONE WAS ALL HUMAN MEMORY AND CUNNING. HE WAS NOW A CONFUSED, BEWILDERED ANIMAL IN A STRANGE ENVIRONMENT. AN ENVIRONMENT WHERE EVEN A FLASHING NEON SIGN WAS AN OBJECT TO FEAR!
HONK! HONK!
BEEP BEEP

ITS HEART POUNDING IN TERROR, THE FRIGHTENED BEAST DASHED INTO THE STREET!
HONK!
HONK!

HONK-HONK!
SCREECH

WHAT HAPPENED?
SOME GUY RAN DOWN A BIG DOG!
I...I COULDN'T STOP IN TIME! IT JUMPED RIGHT IN FRONT OF MY TRUCK!

BUT WHEN THE ON-LOOKERS GAZED DOWN AT THE VICTIM...
GASP... IT'S... A MAN!
NO...NO! IT CAN'T BE...IT WAS A DOG, I TELL YOU! A DOG!


BUT WORDS COULD EXPLAIN NOTHING. THE DYING CREATURE HAD REVERTED BACK TO HIS ORIGINAL FORM... AND WITH THAT FINAL TRANSFORMATION CARLOS MARTINEZ FOUND PEACE! A PEACE WHICH HAD ELUDED HIM ALL HIS TRAGIC LIFE! NOW, AT LONG LAST, THE FIRE BURNING AT HIS SOUL WAS EXTINGUISHED FOREVER!
THE END